

# **The National Commission for Justice and Peace Activities in 2023**

## **Climate Change/ COP28-**

- Hosted an “Ecological Conversion as Missionary Conversion” lecture given by Professor Stan Chu Illo where he shared his experience of the devastating effects of climate change on some of the poorest communities in the world. This was held in the Eyre Hall in Glasgow.
- Worked collaboratively with SCIAF and SCES on Laudato Si Schools development sessions for teachers, supporting schools on their Laudato Si Schools journey to “change for good” by embedding the goals of the Laudato Si encyclical.
- Celebrated the Season of Creation, the theme of which was “Let Justice and Peace Flow”.
- Joined faith and environmental groups for a Global Day of Climate Action in Edinburgh coinciding with COP28.

## **Nuclear Disarmament**

- Joined the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, along with Scottish Christians Against Nuclear Weapons (SCANA) for a peace witness event at Faslane, home of the Trident nuclear submarines.
- Attended the Festival of Survival exploring the connection between nuclear disarmament and climate justice. This event included an address by Archbishop Nolan.
- Became members of the Scottish Government Cross Party Group on Nuclear Disarmament.

## **Social Justice and Poverty**

- Collaborated with the Church of Scotland on the Fair Pay in Social Care campaign, including coordinating the signing of the Faith Leaders' Declaration for Fair Pay.
- Met with Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care, MSP Michael Matheson, to advocate for fair work and fair pay in social care.
- Endorsed the ongoing initiative to implement a Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG) in Scotland, led by The Poverty Alliance.
- Attended the joint churches briefing event, “Faith, Compassion and Security” on the Christian relevance of supporting the Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG).

## **Human Migration**

- Became members of the Scottish Government Cross Party Group on Migration.
- Participated in a solidarity gathering at Dungavel Immigration Detention Centre to mark Refugee Week 2023.
- Worked with other faith groups through Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees (SFAR) to help support refugees and asylum seekers to integrate into the community.

## **Catholic Social Teaching (CST)**

- Visited five secondary schools to speak to senior pupils about CST and its relevance to social and political issues.
- Met with Headteachers and Deputy Headteachers at leadership conferences and spoke about teaching CST in schools and the work of Justice and Peace Scotland.
- Facilitated a parish project for Caritas pupils on CST and human trafficking, helping participants to learn more about these issues while growing in the spirituality of their faith.
- Visited diocesan and parish Justice and Peace groups to talk about the work of The National Commission and related CST.